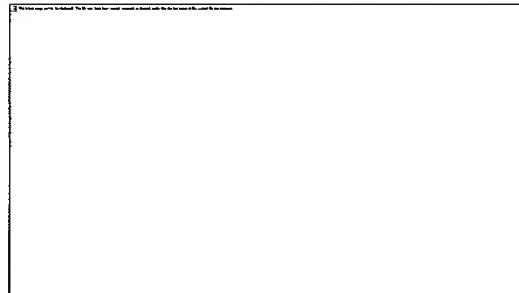


Several Nexter critics said they conducted their own research, including a study by a Boulder-based acoustics expert who suggested the wind farm should close.



Commissioners said they don't have enough information yet to decide what, if any, action to take.

"We're going to hold Nexter accountable to make sure they're meeting their obligations," Waller said. "We're trying to be unbiased about the situation. This is the first time we as a commission (with two new members) are learning about the history of the situation and the level of concern."

At an undetermined future hearing, commissioners said they want to learn more about how Nexter responds to complaints from neighbors.

Some neighbors said Nexter is slow to respond or hasn't responded at all, and criticized commissioners for their lack of action.

Commissioners Darryl Glenn and Longinos Gonzalez Jr., both asked upset neighbors to follow an established complaint process.

"It's extremely important because it's an obligation that we're held to," Glenn said. "We can't hold Nexter responsible for not doing what they're (supposed to) if the complaint hasn't been submitted (properly)."

Dailey said Nexter will work harder to communicate with affected neighbors, and that the company wants to see the results of the private research presented at the hearing.

The wind farm has 145 turbines and a 29-mile transmission line. The company sells electricity to Xcel Energy.

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[http://www.ricentral.com/coventry\\_courier/residents-complain-of-issues-with-turbines/article\\_32004724-1028-11e7-9df6-5762fa374322.html](http://www.ricentral.com/coventry_courier/residents-complain-of-issues-with-turbines/article_32004724-1028-11e7-9df6-5762fa374322.html)

## **Residents complain of issues with turbines**

Kendra LolloMar 23, 2017 RHODE ISLAND

COVENTRY — Citing increasing concerns from constituents in her ward regarding Wind Energy Development's newly-installed wind turbines, Councilwoman Karen Carlson made a public plea this week with town officials to "take notice and listen."

The District 1 councilwoman read excerpts of correspondence she had received from residents surrounding the turbines.

"Our dream of sitting outside behind our house enjoying some peace and quiet no longer exists," said a resident of Flat River Road. "We sit on the deck at night and all we can hear are the windmills. We open our bedroom window and all we can hear are the windmills. There is not one day that goes by that we don't hear it. The ones who benefit from it don't have to deal with the effects of these windmills."

Carlson quoted another resident of West Long Bridge Road, who said they were experiencing issues with shadow flicker from the propellers of the turbine, particularly when the sun is setting. The home owner requested that the turbines be shut down during that time on a daily basis, citing the town's existing wind energy ordinance.

"During the time of shadow flicker, the wind energy facility shall be shut down so as to eliminate shadow flicker issues," the ordinance reads. "The presence of shadow flicker shall be measured at the property boundary lines and at locations within 2,500 feet of the wind energy facility."

The ordinance also indicates that the applicant, when proposing the turbines, is required to prove that the flicker effect will not have "significant adverse impact" on the neighboring properties.

"I'd like to know what the hell we're going to do about this," Carlson said, apologizing for the language. "These are tax payers. They're not getting anything from these turbines, and it's time to take notice and listen. We need to do it now."

Carlson also pointed out that the town's own noise ordinance says that excessive noise degrades quality of life.

"For the people who move out to Greene and Western Coventry, they're out there because they want a country rural lifestyle without a lot of noise," she said.

Town Manager Graham Waters said that he has referred the complaints to the zoning department, and some even to DePasquale himself, who Waters said requested to be put in contact with residents who experience issues with the turbines.

"I've made no qualms about interfering on behalf of residents," Waters said. "But I feel that if Mr. DePasquale can intervene first and take care of their issues directly and have a direct line of conversation with them, I think that would be the most beneficial."

"We're not supposed to rely on him to do something for the residents when we already have an ordinance," Carlson replied.

Waters said that because the turbines were constructed in May of 2016 and have just recently come online, he has been referring complaints to the zoning department for further investigation.

The same homeowner who reached out to Carlson regarding the shadow flicker also informed her that water from the wetland abutting their property was backing up and overflowing a segment of a nearby access road under which Wind Energy Development had installed a conduit for the turbines. The resident feared that the continued erosion of the road would lead to exposure of the electrical conduit which was installed in October of 2015. When the individual contacted DePasquale, they were told a depression would be made in the newly installed road to allow for proper drainage, but it was never actually made.

“The culvert that Wind Energy constructed has become blocked, causing the water to back up and flow over the road itself, washing out the dirt and gravel covering the road.”

Carlson said the Department of Environmental Management was able to acquire a cease and desist notice because Wind Energy Development was not issued permits to modify the wetland in the area. She called the incident “disturbing,” and asked that a town official conduct an inspection of the area.

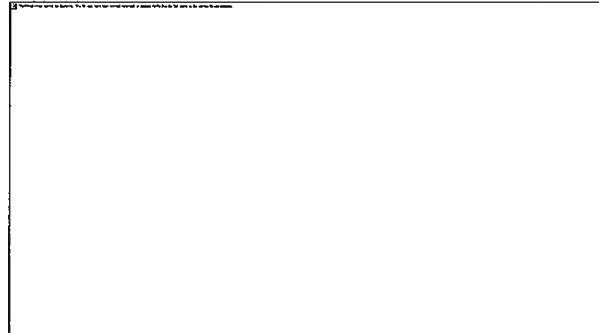
“What I would like a zoning official to go out there and finally look at this,” she said. “Somebody from the town should be there checking our Chapter 200 which is our soil erosion chapter.”

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<http://www.kdlt.com/2017/04/04/lincoln-county-increases-restrictions-wind-turbines/>

## **Lincoln County Increases Restrictions For Wind Turbines**

April 4, 2017 SOUTH DAKOTA  
Sydney Kern



CANTON, S.D. – It was a tough night for a company that wants to build a wind farm in Lincoln County.

County commissioners approved some zoning changes.

Dakota Power Community Wind wants to build a farm with nearly 300 turbines.

But commissioners voted to put some tougher restrictions on how quiet they have to be. Dakota Power wanted a top noise limit of 65 decibels, but commissioners set the limit at 45 decibels.

The company says that is unrealistic based on a study they conducted testing the current noise in the county.

“The noise level ranged from 36.4. DBA to 51.3 DBA, so in some areas the decibel level was already exceeded before we even did anything,” says Rob Johnson, with Dakota Power Community Wind.

Commissioners also discussed a second zoning change.

This one dealt with the setback distance, which is how far the turbines have to be from public roads and homes.

The current distance is 1,320 ft., or three times the height of the turbine.

**The Planning Commission recommended increasing it to 5,200 ft., or one mile.**

The county commissioners said this decision is the toughest they'll have to make, since it could determine whether or not Canton and surrounding cities could grow in the future.

They decided to table it for now, so they can look into more research on the topic.

Dakota Power Community Wind says they can deal with the noise restrictions, though it will make their project much more difficult.

But they said if the county adds setback restrictions, then they will have to kill the project.

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<http://northcountrynow.com/news/citizens-opposed-parishville-and-hopkinton-wind-turbines-vent-pilot-tax-and-lease-agreement>

## **Citizens opposed to Parishville and Hopkinton wind turbines vent PILOT, tax and lease agreement concerns to legislators**

Wednesday, April 5, 2017 - 11:46 am **NEW YORK**

By **MATT LINDSEY**

CANTON -- Members of the Concerned Citizens for Rural Preservation attended a St. Lawrence County Legislature meeting Monday to dispute claims made by an environmental health scientist and business developer relating to proposed wind turbines.

Four community members, Will Dailey, Lucia Dailey, Gary Snell and Lori Witherell all spoke at the meeting during a public comment period disputing claims made by Avangrid associates Christopher Ollson, an environmental health scientist, and Scott McDonald, a business developer.

Ollson and McDonald made the presentation to legislators March 27.

Avangrid, a subsidiary of Iberdrola, is heading the North Ridge Wind Farm which calls for about 40 wind towers, about 500 feet high, to be constructed on land in Hopkinton and Parishville.

The concerned citizens group opposes claims made that property values do not decrease when a wind farm moves into an area. They also say Avangrid employees have had contact with school and town officials relating to Payment in Lieu of Tax (PILOT) contracts versus taxes. Other concerns were clauses contained in lease agreements and wind power taking money away from the Robert Moses Power Dam.

Will Dailey expressed concerns about a confidentiality clause and right to terminate clause he read in a lease between a landowner and Avangrid.

He told legislators that should landowners wish to complain publicly about issues (such as noise, visual impairment or flickering the light), that they (landowners) would have to submit complaints directly to Avangrid before it could be printed for the public to see.

"You should read the lease agreements – they are a hoot," Dailey said in an interview with North Country This Week April 5. His wife, Lucia, was also interviewed.

He says the agreements do not allow landowners to terminate their lease, but includes the option for the wind company to do so.

Mr. Dailey says an Amish friend of his bought land a few years ago that had a lease agreement. The Amish man was allegedly told by an Avangrid representative that he could in fact get out of the agreement, a contradiction of what his agreement states.

"I don't know if all of these leases are the same," Mr. Dailey said. "PCNeighbors should be getting together to discuss the leases and I am not sure that is happening."

Mr. Dailey's wife, Lucia, says claims that wind farms do not decrease property values are false.

"They say there is no decrease – but when property values are going up everywhere else and remaining the same near wind farms – that shows property values decrease near wind farms," she said. So although property values may not decrease on paper, with other property values rising in other parts of the state, land near wind farms does not increase in value at the same rate, according to studies the Dailey's have read.

The Concerned Citizens for Rural Preservation are receiving help from other towns, including Vermont, Massachusetts and across the state, who have challenged wind farms or who are facing the same situation now.

"Other communities (that have wind farms) are coming to us with information about the health effects from the turbines," Mrs. Dailey said. "A couple in Vermont were forced to abandon their home because they couldn't stand them anymore."

She also said people from nearby Chateaugay have approached the group warning them about property values. The couple claims that they have been unable to sell their home for anything close to what they put into it, all because of wind turbines in the area..

Mrs. Dailey says that Avangrid officials have informally contacted local officials about PILOTS. According to Mrs. Dailey, Avangrid representatives stated they have not had contact with local officials. She says Parishville Town Supervisor Rodney Votra said he was approached about PILOTS. He allegedly made the comment at a town hall meeting.

"We are pretty sure," Avangrid has had private, individual meetings with the superintendent and the Hopkinton town supervisor, she said.

Mrs. Dailey said she believes school and town officials saw PILOTS as free money if the project does happen. She says

information they've gathered shows that PILOTS would not provide the same financial gain for the area as taxes would.

Staying with the financial impact on the region, Mrs. Dailey says wind turbines would have an impact on the Robert Moses hydropower dam in Massena.

Mrs. Dailey says she was going door-to-door discussing wind power and a power worker told her the power dam would have to cut back its production so it would not overload the grid.

She says studies have shown that wind turbines generally produce just 20 to 25 percent of their capacity. "It is unreliable and not that efficient." "Why take on a project that pays taxes to basically offer a subsidy to the wind company," Dailey asked.

Mr. Dailey said it was "nice of the legislators to put up with the public coming to meetings." "I am hopeful they (legislators) will bring themselves up to speed."

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<http://www.fairmontsentinel.com/news/local-news/2017/04/06/citizens-oppose-wind-farm-project/>

## **Citizens oppose wind farm project**

Apr 6, 2017

**Anna Boettcher Staff Writer MINNESOTA**

BLUE EARTH — Representatives of the Coalition for Rural Property Rights spoke before the Faribault County Commission this week, presenting opposition to a proposed industrial wind energy installation in the county. Citizens packed the commissioners room at the Courthouse to voice their concerns regarding placement of wind turbines.

The current setback for non-participating residences is 1,000 feet. The average rotor diameter of wind energy turbines has been steadily increasing, leading many citizens

to believe the current setback requirement is not enough to protect non-participating lands and residences.

**The Coalition requested that the board consider increasing setbacks from non-participating dwellings to 10 times the rotor diameter of the wind turbine to be installed, which is comparable to the ordinance adopted in Goodhue County.**

Many of these Faribault County residents believe the placement of the wind turbines is infringing on their rights. Community members discussed several points regarding the wind turbine placement, including limitations on hunting rights, firearm use, agricultural prosperity and residents' quality of life. They believe large-scale wind turbines can cause harm to people in the form of loss of enjoyment of property through added noise, shadow flicker and a complete change to their environment, which is almost completely out of their control. Most object to an object, roughly the size of a Boeing 747, over 400 feet in the air constantly moving within 1,000 to 1,500 feet of them, said one resident.

Carolyn Zierke offered her perspective on the proposed wind turbines:

*"By allowing growers to protect their crops during the most important time in a plant's life, it means, for you as a county, an additional local revenue of over \$3.8 billion by not placing 120 turbines on productive farmland ... Why are counties overlaying an industrial zone on top of a productive agricultural zone? This county has the highest producing ground in the state ... Don't compromise the soil structure that these growers have built in this county, or the investment in tile to properly drain these productive crops that we grow, because the revenue generated from the state's highest-producing county has a rippling effect on the community."*

Dan Warner also weighed in.

*"Don't get mesmerized by the apple," he said. "The apple is money. These [wind turbines] are money. Please don't let the illusion of big money, generated by these big machines, cloud your judgment in protecting the residents who are forced to live around these big machines. These same people, and these same families, who populate our schools*

*and shop in our small towns are the ones who are trying to carve out a life out there. These are the same families that have elected you to protect them. Please don't bite the apple."*

Shanelle Montana, project developer for the Rose Lake Wind Project in Faribault County, spoke on behalf of EDF and its proposed project, defending the company and its standards. Montana said the company encourages this type of conversation, hoping the citizens' questions were answered.

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Monday, April 10, 2017

## **Conservation Groups Sue Over Proposed Turbine, OPSB Rejects Application For Offshore Wind Farm**

A pair of bird conservation groups is suing the Ohio Air National Guard to halt the proposed construction of a wind turbine near Lake Erie.

The American Bird Conservancy and the Black Swamp Bird Observatory previously filed notices they intended to sue last year.

The complaint in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia alleges the project will violate the Endangered Species, Migratory Bird Treaty, the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection, and the National Environmental Policy acts.

Named as defendants are U.S. Air Force Acting Secretary Lisa Disbrow, OANG Col. Andy Stephan, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Acting Director Jim Kurth, and U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke.

The groups are requesting the court force the government to prepare a new biological opinion, obtain new permitting

under the MBTA and BGEPA laws and prepare a new environmental impact statement.

The filing argues the project will "impair the interest of" the groups and individuals who observe, study, enjoy and benefit from local birds. The project, they argue, "will be built by killing, harassing or otherwise taking birds in this unique migratory area."

The groups contend that an environmental assessment from the government shows the adverse impact the project is expected to have. That assessment states one of the project's purposes as studying the impact of wind energy on factors including the deaths of birds and bats as the result of such turbines.

"In short, the stated purpose of the project is to observe how many birds (and bats) - including numerous federally protected species - the turbine will kill by being placed in a crucial migratory pathway and globally important bird area so that ANG can then 'make recommendations,'" the lawsuit reads.

The OANG previous determined the project would not a "significant impact" on the natural environment, according to a 2016 study.

**Icebreaker:** The Ohio Power Siting Board rejected the application of an unrelated project to construct an offshore windfarm in Lake Erie, saying the application lacked sufficient information.

The six-turbine, 20 megawatt wind farm would be situated eight miles off the Cleveland coast and would mark the first freshwater wind farm in the nation.

But in a letter from OSPB Chairman Asim Haque, the board informed project members that the group's Feb. 1 application and its supplemental application March 13 failed to comply with administrative code.

That's because the applicants referred to two memorandums of understanding that were not included in the application materials. They include agreements on

monitoring the project's impact on both fisheries and other aquatic resources and on birds and bats. ([Docket](#))

"At such time as the applicant files in this proceeding copies of these two MOUs, signed by at least the applicant and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, staff will revisit its compliance determination," Mr. Haque wrote.

Applicants are prohibited from commencing construction on any part of the facility without a certificate from the board.

Opponents, including the aforementioned BSBO and ABC, have voiced concerns about the impact on wildlife and argued the project could be a stepping stone to thousands of turbines constructed on the lake.

"The combined scale of U.S. and Canadian wind aspirations for Lake Erie is at least 2,700 turbines, or about 9,300 MW," the groups said in comments. "It is therefore essential that every effort be made by LEEDCo to prepare a fundamentally sound, quantitative risk assessment of mortality to bird and bat species known to be in the area, especially protected species covered by the Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and their Canadian equivalents."

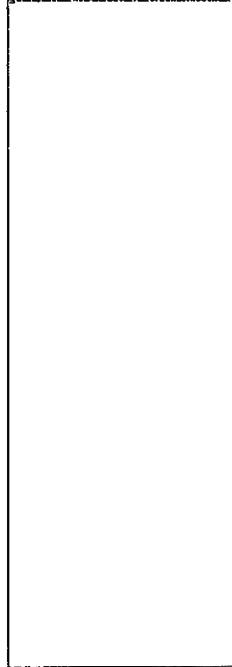
But proponents, including Sen. Matt Dolan (R-Chagrin Falls), say the project will drive economic and environmental investment in the region.

"Ultimately, Icebreaker could position Cleveland as a central North American hub for the emerging U.S. offshore wind industry," Sen. Dolan wrote in public testimony filed last month.

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[http://www.cleveland.com/neobirding/index.ssf/2017/03/birding\\_groups\\_sue\\_ohio\\_air\\_na.html](http://www.cleveland.com/neobirding/index.ssf/2017/03/birding_groups_sue_ohio_air_na.html)

## **Birding groups sue Ohio Air National Guard to block wind-turbine at Camp Perry**



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The Black Swamp Bird Observatory joined the American Bird Conservancy on Monday in a federal lawsuit to block construction of a wind turbine at Camp Perry due to fears it would destroy migrating birds and bats. *(Photo courtesy of Black Swamp Bird Observatory)*

By James F. McCarty The Plain Dealer  
on March 27, 2017 at 4:35 PM

WASHINGTON, D.C. - State and national birding groups sued the Ohio Air National Guard on Monday, asking a federal court to block construction of a large wind turbine at Camp Perry near Lake Erie.

The Black Swamp Bird Observatory, based in Oak Harbor in Ottawa County, suspects the proposed wind turbine would violate the Endangered Species Act, posing as a lethal bird-killing machine for bald eagles and migrating songbirds and bats.

BSBO joined with the American Bird Conservancy to file the 31-page lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Washington.

A spokeswoman for the Ohio Air National Guard declined to comment.

"We're not aware of the lawsuit, and would not be able to comment on any litigation," said Stephanie Beougher of the Adjutant General's Department.

Michael Hutchins, director of ABC's Bird-Smart Wind Energy Program, called the National Guard turbine project a "disaster," and "perhaps the worst possible place for wind energy development."

The planned construction site is located less than a mile from Lake Erie and situated in one of the largest confluences of migratory birds and bats in the world, Hutchins said. In addition to numerous bald eagle nests, the lakeshore in that area provides passage for endangered species such as Kirtland's warbler and piping plover.

"We have many peer-reviewed studies documenting the impact of wind energy on birds and bats," said Kimberly Kaufman, BSBO's executive director. "And yet it takes a lawsuit to protect one of the most important migratory bird stopover habitats in the Western Hemisphere."

The birding groups are asking the court to halt the project until the National Guard obtains the proper permits and conducts environmental impact assessments required by the Endangered Species Act.

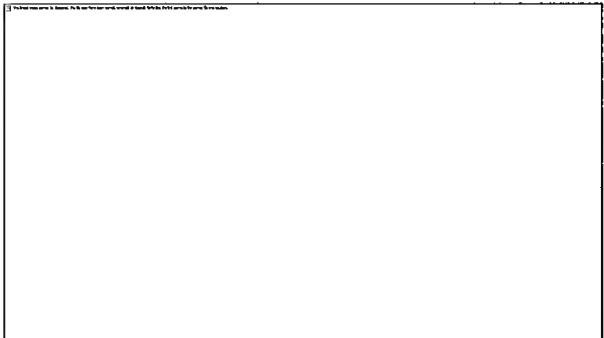
In 2014, the BSBO and Bird Conservancy successfully halted construction of the 600-kilowatt wind turbine after determining the Air National Guard had failed to obtain the proper certifications.

The National Guard subsequently completed an environmental assessment and obtained permission from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, which the BSBO and Conservancy maintain are inadequate. The birding groups have cited a new radar study that shows vast numbers of migratory birds and bats move through the area, flying at altitudes that would bring them within the 198-foot rotor-swept zone of the Camp Perry turbine.

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<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/commentary/>

## **Commentary: Wind turbines around the Great Lakes? A terrible idea for birds, bats**



Wind Power Jens  
Dresling / AP  
Wind turbines at  
Flakfortet near  
Copenhagen.

**Michael Hutchins**  
The rush is on to build  
scores of large,

commercial wind energy facilities in and around the Great Lakes, in Canada and the United States. From the proposed Galloo Island and Lighthouse projects in New York to Camp Perry and Icebreaker in Ohio and Amherst Island and White Pines in Ontario, developers are looking to flood the region with renewable energy. But at what cost?

Many see renewable energy, including wind energy, as an important way to cut our dependence on fossil fuels and address global climate change. But this "green" revolution has a dark side. Collisions with wind turbines are killing hundreds of thousands of birds and bats annually. When you include collisions and electrocutions at associated power lines and towers, the number of birds killed climbs into the tens of millions.

These impacts are likely to grow along with the number of turbines and power lines constructed, a number that is increasing rapidly. American Bird Conservancy estimates that by 2050, when wind energy is projected to produce 35 percent of our electrical energy, as many as 5 million birds per year could be killed by turbines in the United States alone.

From the perspective of wildlife conservation, the Great Lakes are one of the worst possible places to put wind energy. During spring and fall, these large freshwater lakes pose a significant barrier to birds and bats during their annual migration to and from the boreal forests of Canada where they breed. Vast numbers of birds and bats, many of which migrate at night, gather along the shorelines and eventually fly along or over the lakes. Advanced radar studies conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Michigan, Ohio and New York have all confirmed the danger that large-scale wind energy development poses to migratory birds and bats in the region.

The Great Lakes themselves are also an important habitat for water birds. Lake Erie was recently designated a Globally Important Bird Area because of the large numbers of water birds that use the lake. Large-scale commercial wind turbines have the potential to threaten or displace them.

Only through proper risk assessment, siting and post-construction monitoring can such conflicts with wildlife be avoided or contained. At present, regulations governing siting are weak at best. Paid consultants to the wind industry conduct the risk assessments and also collect and report post-construction mortality data — a direct conflict of interest. Some companies have sued to keep their data secret, making public oversight difficult if not impossible.

If any area in the United States and Canada should be avoided for wind energy development, it is the Great Lakes region, one of the world's largest confluences of migratory birds and bats. The cumulative impact of the many existing and planned projects in the region could be substantial and cannot be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

We must make clean energy a priority, but how we do it is important. Our ecologically and economically important birds and bats should not be collateral damage in our battle against climate change.

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*Michael Hutchins is director of the American Bird Conservancy's Bird-Smart Wind Energy campaign.*

Statehouse News  
April 7, 2017

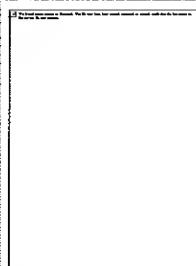
## **New Member Profile: Riedel To Pursue Decentralized Government, Competitive Economy**

Craig Riedel had longer than most freshman lawmakers to prepare for his first day in the Ohio House - something he says he didn't take for granted.

The Defiance Republican toppled incumbent Tony Burkley in the March 2016 primary and, with no Democratic challenger, got a free pass in the general election.

He used the extra time to form relationships with his new constituents and use their feedback to hone his legislative agenda, he said.

"It was very, very beneficial for me to have that time where instead of having to worry about running in the November general election I was able to focus most of my time and energy on just getting around...and getting to know more people within my district," he said in an interview.



Rep. Riedel

Rep. Riedel, 50, represents the 82<sup>nd</sup> District, which is a conservative area of northwest Ohio covering Defiance, Paulding, Van Wert and part of Auglaize counties.

He and his constituents are most interested in policies that would rejuvenate the economy in that region and the entire state, he said.

Having worked at Nucor Corporation for 27 years, the lawmaker said he'd always been focused on attracting businesses to the state and keeping them here. However, he was inspired further through his campaigning, which included knocking on about 4,600 doors.

"We walked through parts of communities that we would have never walked through. That was very sobering to me and my wife because we didn't realize the amount of poverty we have here in northwest Ohio. It's much more severe than I ever imagined," Mr. Riedel said.

"That just reinforced my passion to help people and I think I can help people by bringing better paying jobs to Ohio and northwest Ohio."

His strategies for doing so will include allowing the free market to take control and reducing "unnecessary, burdensome" regulations on businesses, particularly when they hinder growth.

Rep. Riedel said he's a proponent of right-to-work and recently introduced legislation (HB 163) that would permit cities to opt out of prevailing wage.

"It's all about making Ohio more competitive, particularly where I live up here...there are border counties with Indiana and we are in a constant battle with the state of Indiana for good paying jobs, manufacturing jobs."

When it comes to giving control back to local communities or businesses, Rep. Riedel said: "I feel that way about everything."

"I just think we govern best when more decisions are made on a local level," he said.

Rep. Riedel said he's opposed to requiring schools to implement Common Core learning standards and will do his best to ensure taxes aren't increased at the state level.

His wife of 28 years, Danette, is his best counsel when it comes to developing policy and responding to constituent concerns, Rep. Riedel said. Both have forgone other occupations to make the General Assembly a top priority for their family.

"She's been a tremendous help to me with her consultation and her outlook on things. This really is a team effort," he said.

He and his wife have two children, both who graduated from Ohio State University. An OSU alumnus himself, Rep. Riedel said his family are faithful Buckeyes fans and are football season ticket holders.

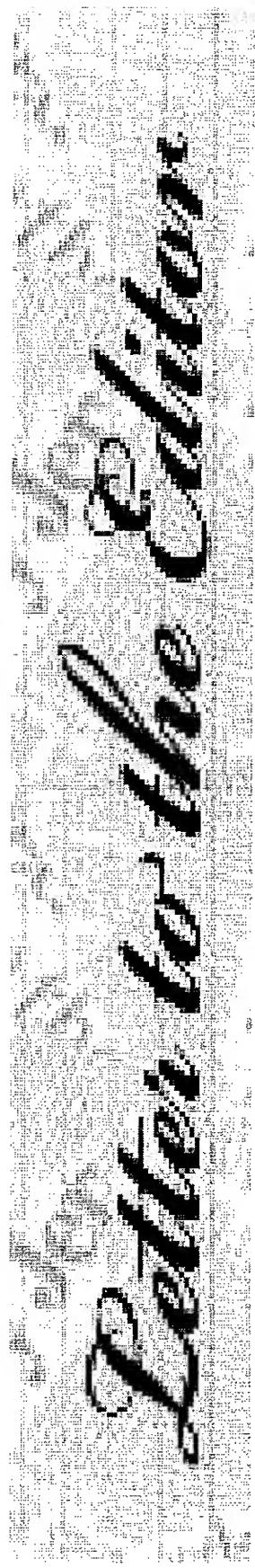


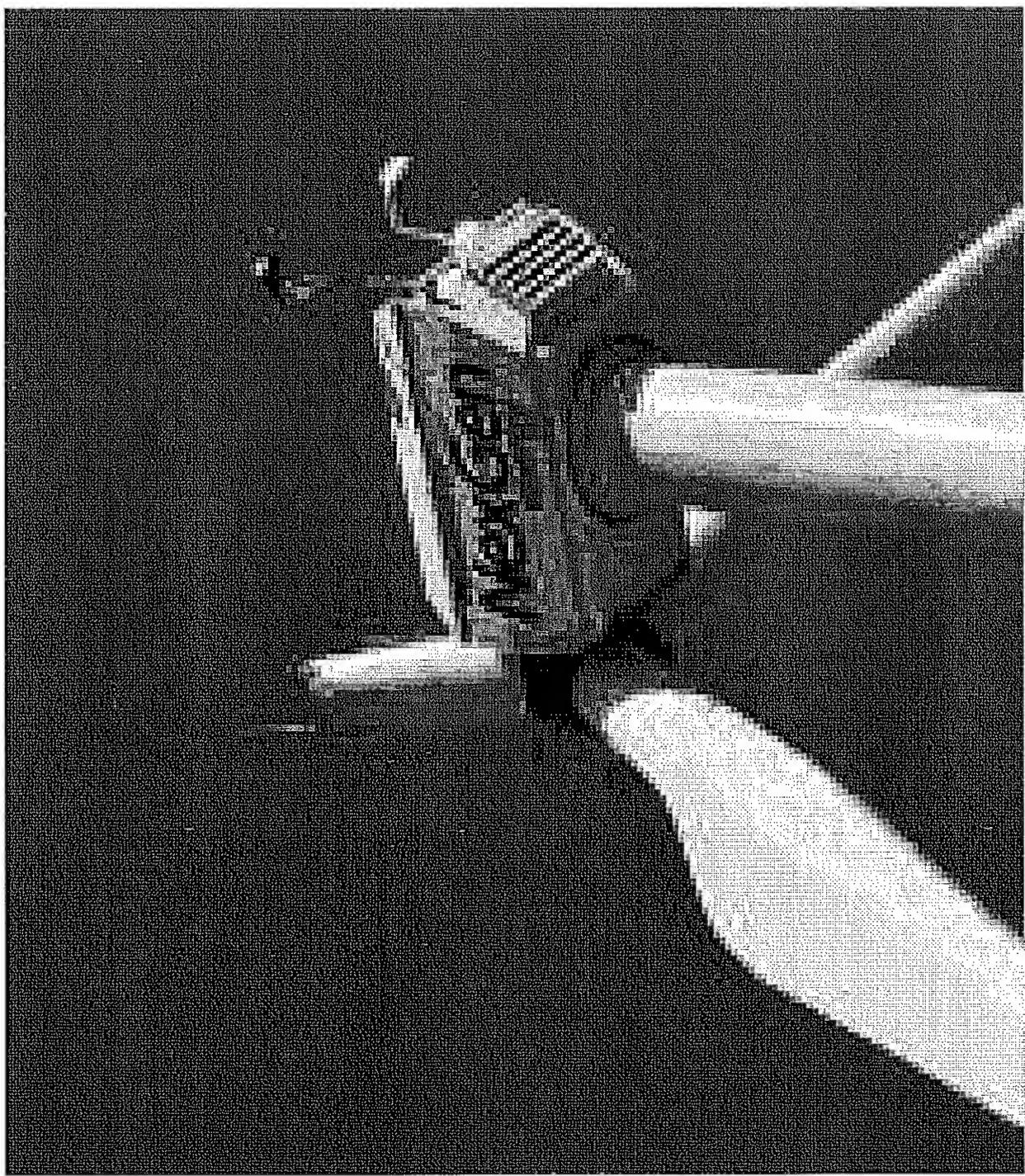
Virus-free [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

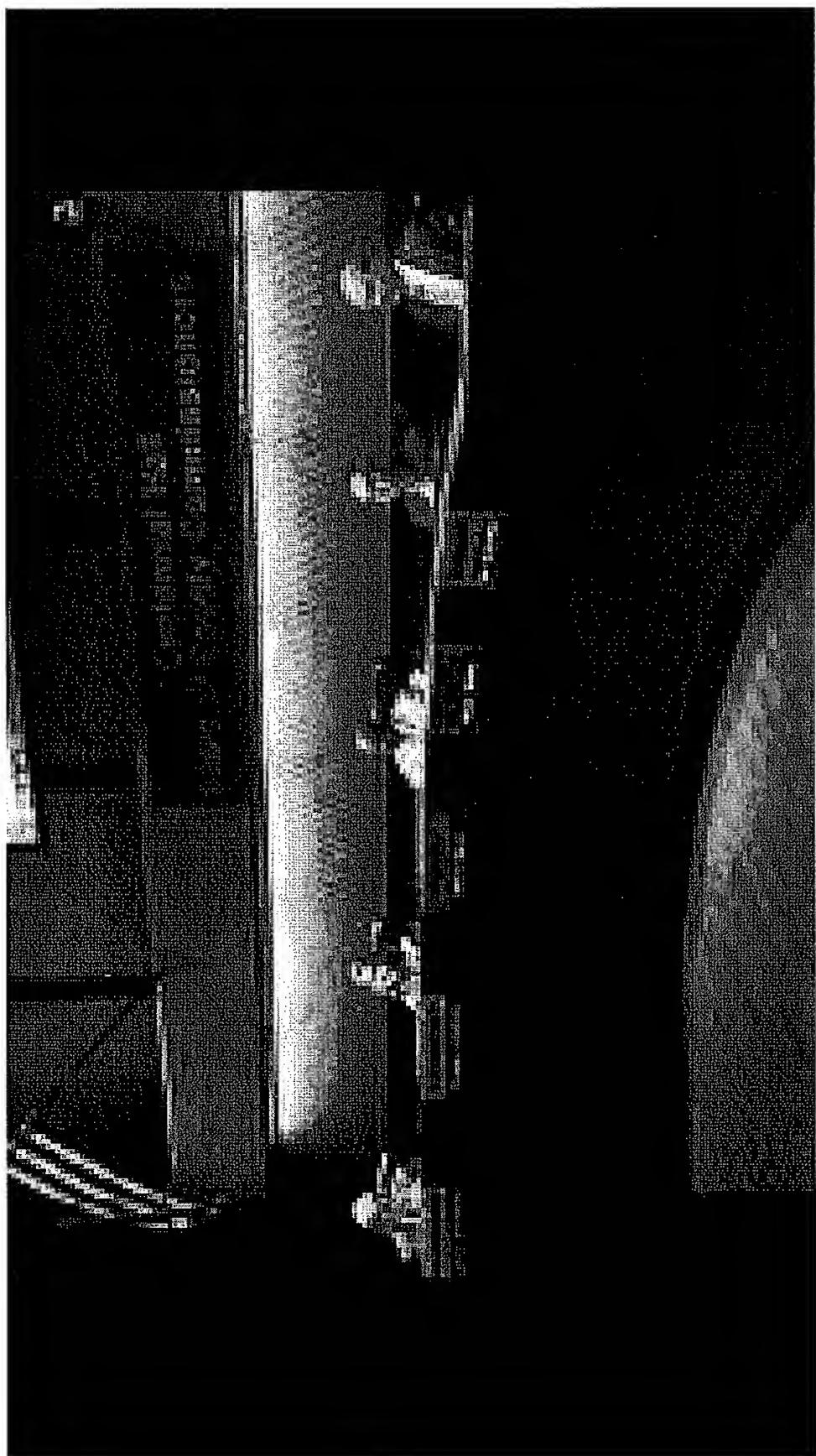
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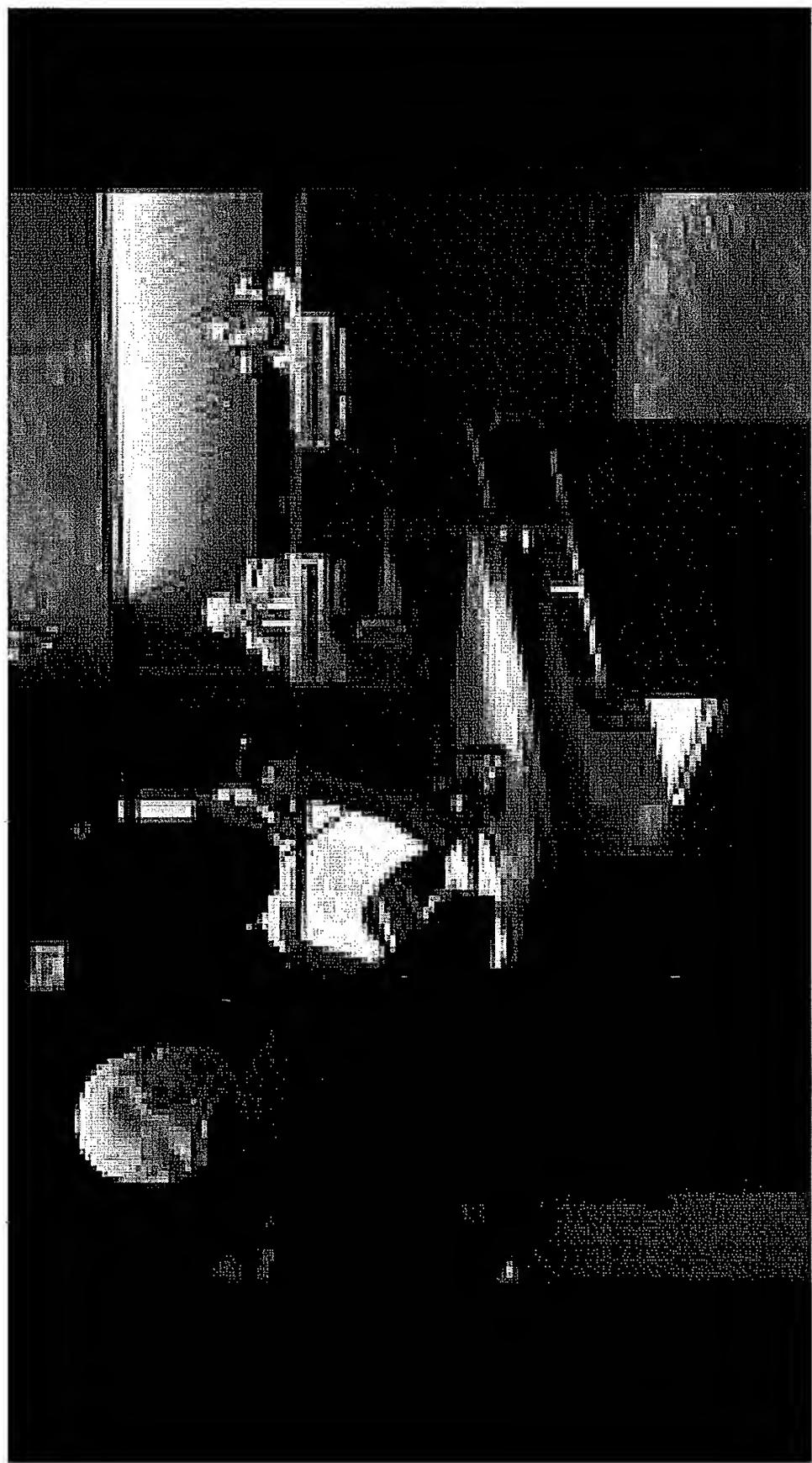
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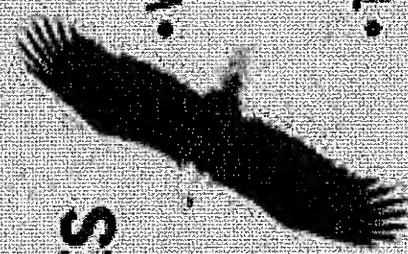




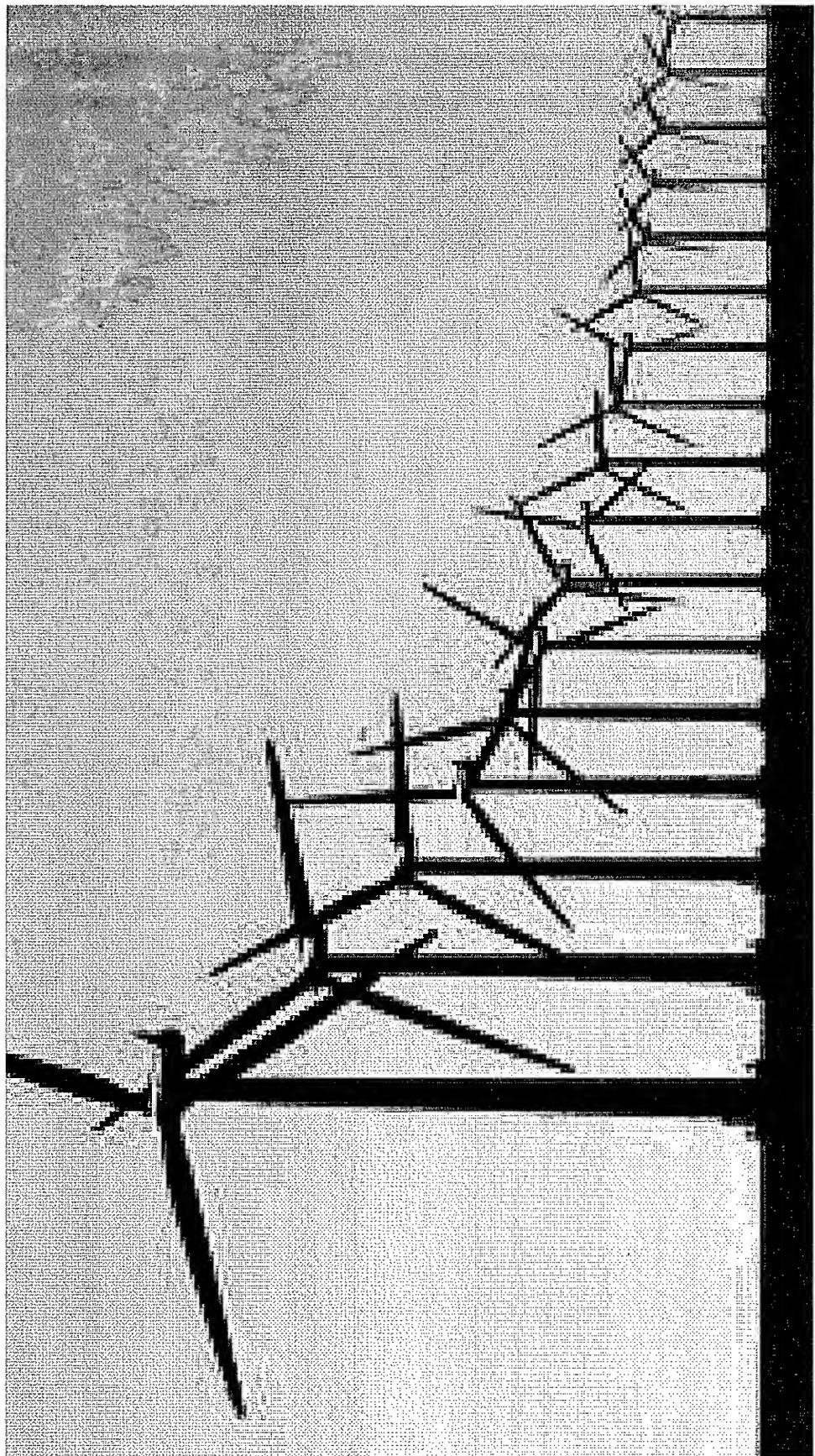


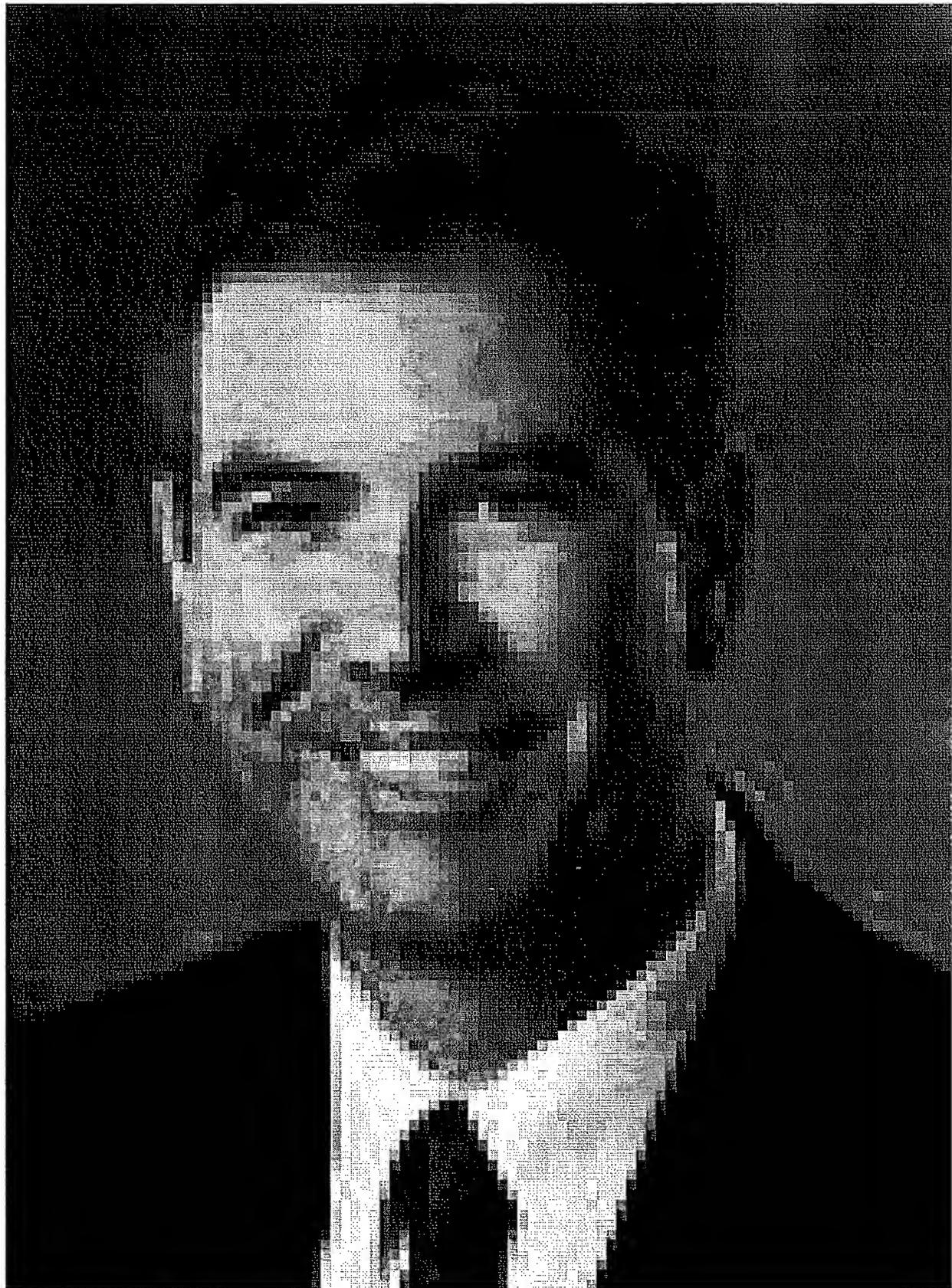


KEEP  
WIND TURBINES  
OFF OUR  
LAKE SHORE



SAVE  
• BALD EAGLES  
• WATERFOWL HUNTING  
• BIRD WATCHING  
• TOURISM  
• THE LOCAL ECONOMY  
LOCATION MATTERS!





**From:** Cicchillo, Joseph  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 1, 2018 1:53 PM  
**To:** Leach, Eric  
**Subject:** Update 5/1

Phone Calls:

- Jodi Elsass-Locker (Deputy Legal Counsel?)
  - Called at 8:00 AM today and left a voicemail to call back
  - 614-466-1920
- Jeff Dylan: Americans for Prosperity Lobbyist
  - 614-460-0488
  - Wanted to set up a meeting for HB 571(added to tracker)
- Johann Klein: Called while you were in your meeting
  - Emailed you some information, if you have any questions you can call him @ the # below
  - Cell: 614-507-0878
  - Has a meeting at 2:00 but should be free otherwise

Thanks,

**Joseph Cicchillo**

*Legislative Fellow for State Representative Bill Reineke*  
Ohio House of Representatives, District 88  
77 S High Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor | Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 466-1374

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**Sent:** Friday, May 11, 2018 11:50 AM  
**To:** Thomas, AJ  
**Subject:** Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon  
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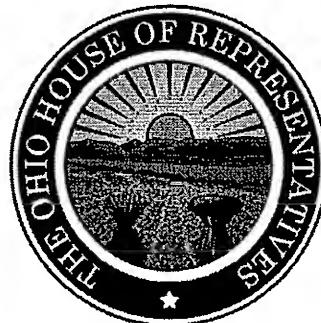
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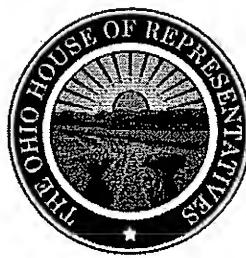
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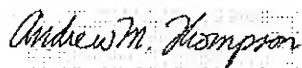
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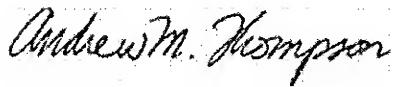
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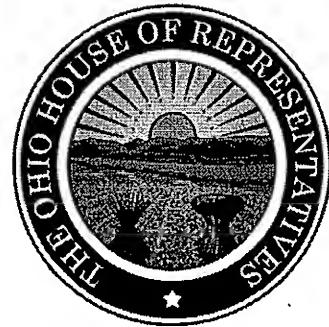
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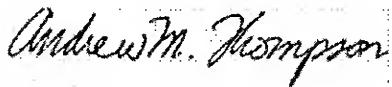
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AMERICANS FOR  
PROSPERITY

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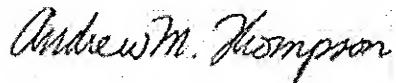
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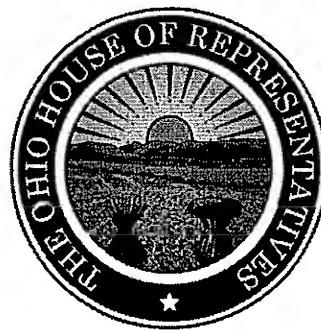
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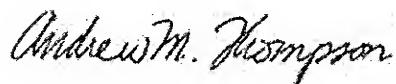
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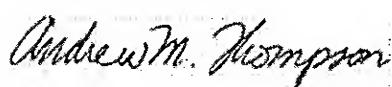
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Thanks,

**Joseph Cicchillo**

*Legislative Fellow for State Representative Bill Reineke*  
Ohio House of Representatives, District 88  
77 S High Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor | Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 466-1374

---

**From:** Thomas, AJ  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 15, 2018 9:34 AM  
**To:** Thomas, AJ <[AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

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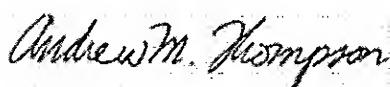
WHERE: 31<sup>st</sup> Fl. North Room

WHEN: Wednesday May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 11:00-12:15

WHO: All Members and Staff are invited

Please RSVP to AJ Thomas ([AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov)) by Friday May 18<sup>th</sup> so we may have a count for lunch.

We hope to see you there!



Andy Thompson  
State Representative  
House District 95



THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE



**From:** Thomas, AJ  
**Sent:** Friday, May 18, 2018 12:32 PM  
**To:** Thomas, AJ  
**Subject:** FW: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

Final chance! Don't miss out on lunch and a great opportunity to see what we are doing to control the rise of the administrative state. Thanks!

**AJ THOMAS**  
Legislative Aide  
State Representative Andy Thompson | Ohio's 95<sup>th</sup> House District  
Ohio House of Representatives  
77 South High Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Office number: (614) 644-8728  
[AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:AJ.Thomas@ohiohouse.gov)

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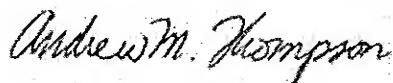
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**From:** Thomas, AJ  
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**Subject:** ALERT- HAPPENING NOW: Deconstructing the Administrative State Luncheon

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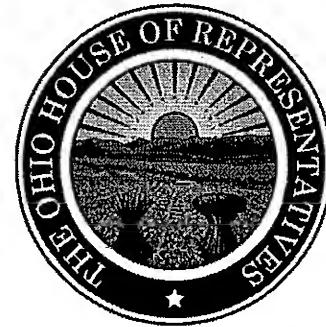
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AMERICAN  
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AMERICAN  
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THE BUCKEYE INSTITUTE



AMERICANS FOR  
PROSPERITY

**From:** Fleck, Craig  
**Sent:** Friday, June 22, 2018 3:42 PM  
**To:** GOP\_All  
**Subject:** New GOP Additions

# WELCOME

When you get a free minute, please make sure to introduce yourself and welcome the newest members of our team.



**Tyler  
Herrmann,  
Deputy Legal  
Counsel /  
Policy Advisor**

Tyler is from Harrison, Ohio and holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Cincinnati and a Political Science degree from Wright State University. Tyler served in the United States Air Force as an Operations Intelligence Analyst NCO and currently serves as a JAG Attorney for the United States Army. He currently presides as the Chairman for the Ohio Chapter of the Republican National Lawyers Association, and as the Treasurer for the Cap City Young

Republicans. Tyler transferred to the House from the Attorney General's Office where he served as an Assistant Attorney General within the Executive Agencies Section.

## James Kennedy, LA Merrin



James is from Palm City, Florida and an alum of Florida, Atlantic University where he graduated with a degree in Political Science. While in college he had the opportunity to serve as a Tax and Fiscal Policy Intern for the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). James has an extensive research background serving as a Legal Research Analyst Intern for the Buckeye Institute and as a Political-Military Analyst Intern for the Hudson Institute. Prior to arriving to the House, he served as a Legislative Assistant for the Tennessee Legislation Service in Nashville. In James' free time, he enjoys collecting sports memorabilia and claims to have personally met nearly every

major league baseball superstar.

## Lauren Reid, LA Butler



Lauren is from Madison, Connecticut, and recently graduated from the University of Dayton with degrees in Criminal Justice and Political Science with a minor in Spanish. While at Dayton, she served as a Statehouse Civic Scholar, where she was assigned an internship working for the Governor's communication team. Lauren had the unique experience of traveling to Segovia, Spain, where she participated in a four-week immersion program. During the winter months whenever she gets the opportunity, she enjoys to snowmobile.

## Craig Fleck

Deputy Administrative Officer  
Ohio House of Representatives  
77 South High Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor

Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Cell: 440.376.6098  
Office: 614.466.2175  
[Craig.fleck@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Craig.fleck@ohiohouse.gov)

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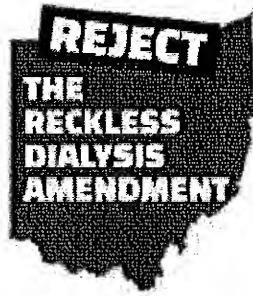
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**From:** Ohioans Against the Reckless Dialysis Amendment  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 10, 2018 11:39 AM  
**To:** Cicchillo, Joseph  
**Subject:** Ohio Kidney Patient, Healthcare Groups Oppose Reckless Dialysis Amendment

[View this email in your browser](#)



Tuesday, July 10, 2018

## **Ohio Kidney Patient, Healthcare Groups Unite Against Reckless Dialysis Amendment**

(COLUMBUS) – Ohioans Against the Reckless Dialysis Amendment, a broad coalition of leading kidney care organizations, nurses, physicians and patient advocates, today announced its opposition to a proposed Constitutional Amendment that threatens to reduce access to Ohio's 326 out-patient dialysis clinics for the 18,000 Ohioans suffering from kidney failure.

Dialysis providers are among the most regulated healthcare provider groups in the country. All out-patient clinics are licensed by the Ohio Department of Health, certified by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and highly regulated under current state and federal laws and regulations. Current laws and regulations address, among other things, patient safety; environmental cleanliness; infection prevention and control; emergency preparedness; staff training and continuing education; and water system and equipment maintenance. Clinics must also submit to unannounced quality assessments and inspections by the Ohio Department of Health.

"The proposed amendment was written by a California-based special interest group with no experience in dialysis care and – without any evidence of a problem – would recklessly lock dangerous, arbitrary rules into the Ohio Constitution, threatening access to high-quality care for thousands of Ohioans," said Diane Wish, co-founder and president of the Ohio Renal Association (ORA). "What's worse, the amendment calls for rebates that will end up in the pockets of insurance companies, not patients."

Wish, a registered nurse with more than 40 years of experience in providing dialysis treatment, is joined by other kidney care experts and physicians in opposition to the proposed amendment initiated by the California-based SEIU-UHW West.

"I've seen first-hand the devastating health consequences my dialysis patients face without proper access to care," said Dr. Henry Wehrum, a nephrologist (kidney specialist) with nearly 30 years of experience in the field, who also serves on the board of the Ohio Osteopathic Association (OOA). "The Ohio Constitution is simply not the place for complicated healthcare policy. And because it's written as a Constitutional Amendment, when things go wrong it can only be changed by another Constitutional Amendment – that's not a risk I'm willing to take on behalf of my patients."

Michael Needham, president and CEO of the Kidney Foundation of Ohio (KFO) added, "the Kidney Foundation of Ohio opposes the amendment because it will harm patients, not help them. The Amendment threatens to reduce the number of centers available to Ohioans, which would be especially harmful to vulnerable patients." The Kidney Foundation of Ohio is a patient advocacy group that has been providing a broad-based program of direct assistance to those with kidney disease since 1950.

To date, the organizations opposing the amendment include:

- Academy of Medicine of Cleveland and Northern Ohio
- Chronic Disease Coalition
- Diabetes Dayton
- Dialysis Patient Citizens
- Global Healthy Living Foundation
- Kidney Care Council
- Kidney Care Partners
- Kidney Foundation of Ohio
- National Renal Administrators Association

- Nonprofit Kidney Care Alliance
- Ohio Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
- Ohio Osteopathic Association
- Ohio Renal Association
- Ohio Sickle Cell and Health Association
- Ohio State Medical Association
- Renal Physicians Association
- Renal Support Network

Based on campaign finance filings, the California-based SEIU is believed to have hired hundreds of paid petition circulators, many from out-of-state, to gather signatures from Ohio voters. On Wednesday, July 4, the group submitted signatures to the Ohio Secretary of State in an attempt to qualify the issue for the November 6 Ohio statewide ballot. The petitions and signatures are now under review by elections officials.

"The SEIU has a long history of abusing the ballot issue process to advance its own political agenda," said coalition spokesperson Gene Pierce. "That its amendment would actually harm Ohio dialysis patients comes as no surprise to those familiar with the SEIU's strong-arm tactics."

Among the proposed Constitutional mandates are provisions directing the Ohio Department of Health to establish arbitrary revenue limits for Ohio clinics and require rebates to private health insurance companies should revenues exceed those arbitrary limits. The amendment excludes Medicare, Medicaid and other government payers — which cover nearly 90 percent of dialysis patients in Ohio — from receiving rebates, leaving only private health insurance companies able to receive them. The amendment does not require insurance companies to pass on any savings to patients.

Coalition members are concerned that arbitrary revenue limits will force some dialysis providers to consolidate operations or close locations, reducing access to critical dialysis care — particularly for patients in rural, urban, and underserved areas.

The non-partisan coalition is planning a statewide campaign to educate Ohio voters on the ballot issue's dangerous consequences, should the issue be placed on the ballot.

The estimated 18,000 Ohioans suffering from end stage renal disease (ESRD) typically receive life-preserving dialysis treatments in a clinic three times a week, with each visit taking three to four hours.

According to national research, missing even one dialysis treatment increases a patient's risk of death by 30 per cent. Find more information on ESRD in Ohio [here](#).



***PAID FOR BY OHIOANS AGAINST THE RECKLESS DIALYSIS AMENDMENT***

**Our mailing address is:**

100 S. Third Street, Columbus, OH 43215

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

**From:** Flasher, Kim  
**Sent:** Friday, July 13, 2018 3:19 PM  
**To:** House\_All  
**Subject:** Legislative Conferences and Travel  
**Attachments:** Travel Request Form.docx

Memo to: All House Members

From: Speaker Ryan Smith

Date: July 13, 2018

Re: Legislative Conferences Annual Meetings

As you may know, the Ohio General Assembly pays dues to several National Legislative Conferences such as NCSL, CSG, and ALEC. As these organizations begin holding their annual meetings, several of you may be interested in attending.

In the past, the House has allowed a limited number of Members to attend with a set expenditure reimbursement from the State permitted. This year, the House will approve any Member who would like to attend ONE national meeting and will cover the conference registration fees. The Member is liable for all remaining expenses. Such expenses may be covered through personal or campaign funds.

It is advised that you consult with your caucus Legal Counsel before utilizing campaign funds toward any travel.

If you would like to register for one of the annual meetings, please complete the attached "Request for Travel Form" and return it to Kim Flasher in the Administrative Office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Kim. Thank you.



## **TRAVEL REQUEST FORM**

Traveler \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*I have attached a copy of the conference Itinerary and associated registration fees for review.*

Conference \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Conference

Location \_\_\_\_\_  
—  
—

Date Conference Begins \_\_\_\_\_ Date Conference Ends  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Request to travel approved:  
by:

Expenses to be reimbursed

Representatives  
Kim Flasher, Chief Administrative Officer

House of

Service Commission  
Date

Legislative

**From:** Ingram, Catherine  
**Sent:** Friday, July 13, 2018 4:31 PM  
**To:** Flasher, Kim; House\_All  
**Subject:** Re: Legislative Conferences and Travel

Is this message in regard to only the annual meeting or does it also refer to any other event sponsored by said organizations?

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

----- Original message -----

From: "Flasher, Kim" <Kim.Flasher@ohiohouse.gov>  
Date: 7/13/18 3:18 PM (GMT-05:00)  
To: House\_All <House\_All@ohiohouse.gov>  
Subject: Legislative Conferences and Travel

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**From:** Flasher, Kim  
**Sent:** Friday, July 13, 2018 9:53 PM  
**To:** Ingram, Catherine  
**CC:** House\_All  
**Subject:** Re: Legislative Conferences and Travel

Representative Ingram,

Thank you for the question. This applies to all travel.

Have a good weekend,

Kim

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 13, 2018, at 4:31 PM, Ingram, Catherine <[Catherine.Ingram@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Catherine.Ingram@ohiohouse.gov)> wrote:

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**From:** report@hannah.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 1, 2017 10:14 PM  
**To:** DL\_Hannah  
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